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May 13, 2003 LB 407

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: The proposal is that the correctional complex here in Lincoln would be closed as of October 1 of this year. Is that correct?

SENATOR Dw. PEDERSEN: That's right.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: Now I recognize, as I'm sure you do, that this whole area is under the direction and control of the code agency, so it's directly under the Governor. Is that correct?

SENATOR Dw. PEDERSEN: That's right.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: Have you talked to the Governor or any members of the staff of the Corrections as to this prospect?

SENATOR Dw. PEDERSEN: No. I have not.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: There would have to be a great deal of cooperation, would there not, in setting up a probation setup, the proposed monitoring, the way in which this would be taken care of as far as moving...not all prisoners are in one location. They would be spread among the various facilities. Is that correct?

SENATOR Dw. PEDERSEN: That's right. That's why the October date is in there.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: Yeah, well, that's...today is May and October is not...that's pretty fast, isn't it?

SENATOR Dw. PEDERSEN: The parole administration can add people because there will be some people available, obviously, if you close the facility. And the way the Parole Board works already, I would think with our encouragement that it could be done.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: I'm very intrigued by the proposal. It seems to me that this is something that we need to consider doing. We need to consider doing it as early as we can. I, frankly, do have a bit of concern and maybe more dialogue will take place in that regard, but I have a concern about the